

REMARKS

Amendments

The amendments made herein are to the specification, the abstract, and the claims as they read after the Examiner's Amendment of April 10, 2008. No new matter is added by any of the amendments made herein.

Specification

The specification is amended by the insertion of the term "co-pending" before "U.S. Non-Provisional Application" and by the insertion of two commas in the priority statement starting on page 1, line 6.

The abstract is amended by the addition of the following sentence: "The *in vitro* cultured cells can be fibroblasts, e.g., fibroblasts derived from dermis, fascia, connective tissue, or lamina propria." In addition, purely for consistency with the claims, all instances of the term "*in vitro*" in the abstract have been italicized.

Claims

Claims 22-25 are added herein. New claims 22-25 are supported by the specification (e.g., at: page 17, lines 8-13; page 26, lines 9-19; page 29, line 19, to page 30, line 3; and page 41, line 7, to page 42, line 22) and claim 9 as originally filed.

Applicant asks that all the claims under consideration be allowed in view of the amendment to the claims.

Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050, referencing Attorney Docket No. 10592-022002.

Respectfully submitted,

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Unmarked version of amended abstract

A method for corrective surgery in a human subject of a vocal cord defect amenable to rectification by the augmentation of tissue subadjacent to the vocal cord defect, the method comprising: placing an effective amount of autologous *in vitro* cultured cells into a vocal cord tissue of the subject in a position subadjacent to the vocal cord defect, wherein the vocal cord tissue is selected from the group consisting of a scar, Reinke's space, a muscle of the vocal cord, and the lamina propria, wherein the *in vitro* cultured cells are obtained by culturing a plurality of viable cells retrieved from the subject, and wherein the cultured cells are suspended in a collagen or modified collagen solution prior to injection of the cultured cells. The *in vitro* cultured cells can be fibroblasts, e.g., fibroblasts derived from dermis, fascia, connective tissue, or lamina propria.